

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph 112 on pages 43-44 with the following:

Referring to Fig. 16A, a dispenser 1' is shown in a condition where web material 203 has been fed from a stub roll 204 through a feed mechanism formed by a feed roller 33', a pinch roller 35', a middle chassis member 9' and a face plate structure 43'. A reserve roll mounted in an upper pair of supports (not shown) has a leading portion of sheet material 18' hanging down in front of a feed nip 37'. Pivottally mounted transfer bar 200 is spring loaded rearwardly by spring 201, which is braced against an inside front surface of closed cover 13'. Transfer bar 200 is held in a set position by a pivotally mounted transfer link 205. Transfer link 205 is biased to its most counter-clockwise position by a tension spring 207. The pivotal motion of transfer link 205 is limited in both directions by pins 209, 211. When the web 203 from stub roll 204 is completely depleted, the dispenser control system senses this (in a manner as has been described), and power is applied to transfer motor 199.

Please replace paragraph 123 on page 47 with the following:

Referring to Fig. 20, dispenser 1 preferably includes, as a sheet request switch/sensor 237249, a proximity sensing system for detecting the presence of a user's hands or the like as they approach the front of dispenser 1. As generally described in application Serial No. 09/081,637, the sensor may be of any suitable type, and preferably is a non-contact sensor such as a capacitive or IR sensor. In the illustrated preferred embodiment, a proximity sensor antenna plate 239 (see, e.g., Figs. 11-12) is driven by an oscillator circuit. The oscillator circuit is coupled with microprocessor 115, which detects the presence of a user's hand based upon a voltage related to the amplitude of the oscillations. Microprocessor 115 activates motor 49 when a hand is detected, so as to drive feed roller 33 and thereby dispense a length of the material.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 47-57. Cancelled.

Claim 58. (Original) A dispenser for dispensing flexible sheet material from a roll, comprising:

 a chassis defining a web discharge opening and a feed mechanism for advancing the sheet material to the discharge opening;

 a detection system for detecting an absence of sheet material within said feed mechanism;

 a transfer mechanism for contacting a leading segment of sheet material extending from a roll and moving said sheet material into a feed nip of said feed mechanism, said transfer mechanism comprising:

 a transfer member biased toward said feed nip and into contact with said leading segment of sheet material;

 a transfer link movable between a first position wherein said transfer link retains said transfer member away from said feed nip, against said bias, and a release position wherein said transfer link permits said transfer member to move toward said feed nip under said bias and into contact with said leading segment of sheet material; and

 an actuator for driving said transfer link from said first position to said release position; and

 control means for electrically activating said actuator to drive said transfer link from said first position to said release position in response to said detection system detecting an absence of sheet material within said feed mechanism.

Claim 59. (Original) The dispenser according to claim 58, further comprising a spring for biasing a said transfer link toward said first position.

Claim 60. (Original) The dispenser according to claim 58, wherein said transfer link is pivotally mounted for rotation between said first position and said release position.

Claim 61. (Original) The dispenser according to claim 58, wherein said activator comprises a motor.

Claim 62. (Original) The dispenser according to claim 58, further comprising a cover pivotally mounted to said chassis for movement between an open position and a closed position, and wherein said transfer link is, when said cover is in said closed position, biased toward said nip by a spring positioned between said cover and said transfer link.

Claim 63. (Original) The dispenser according to claim 62, wherein said transfer link is pivotally mounted to fall away from said feed nip under gravitational force upon said cover being moved from said closed position to said open position.